

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:RAPECK/MW

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

NEA - MR. SOBER

S/S: REWOODS

P: MR. SISCO

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R 110011Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 053926

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO FROM THE
SECRETARY

REF: STATE 44699

1. PLEASE CONVEY FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO
FROM THE SECRETARY:

2. DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER: I APPRECIATE YOUR RECENT
MESSAGE WELCOMING OUR ACTION IN LIFTING THE EMBARGO ON
ARMS SALES TO PAKISTAN AND INDIA.

I THINK THE MODERATE REACTION IN THE UNITED STATES REFLECTS
BOTH A RECOGNITION OF THE LOGIC BEHIND THIS DECISION AS
WELL AS THE EXCELLENT GROUNDWORK YOU LAID IN YOUR PUBLIC
AND PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS HERE IN WASHINGTON. THE REACTION
OF THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT, I BELIEVE, HAS BEEN WITHIN PRE-
DICTABLE LIMITS AND SEEMS TO REFLECT AN EFFORT TO CONTAIN
THE DAMAGE WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE RESULT TO OUR BILATERAL
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RELATIONS AND TO THE PROSPECTS FOR REGIONAL RECONCILIATION.

IN THIS REGARD, WE APPRECIATE YOUR STATESMANSHIP IN WRITING TO MRS. GANDHI TO REASSURE HER OF YOUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO THE SIMLA AGREEMENT. AS THE PRESIDENT HAS SUGGESTED IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE TO YOU, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD

BE MOST HELPFUL IF SOME CONCRETE STEPS MIGHT BE TAKEN IN THE NEAR FUTURE WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE SIMLA AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD ALLAY APPREHENSIONS IN INDIA AND HERE THAT OUR ARMS DECISION COULD CAUSE A SET-BACK TO THE PROCESS OF INDIA-PAKISTAN RECONCILIATION.

YOUR RECENT VISIT HERE WAS AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS IN EVERY RESPECT, BUT ESPECIALLY IN THE FORCE AND CLARITY WITH WHICH YOU PRESENTED THE PAKISTANI VIEWPOINT ON A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES. I CONTINUE TO VALUE THE PERSONAL UNDERSTANDING WHICH WE HAVE DEVELOPED SINCE OUR FIRST MEETING IN 1971, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER EXCHANGES WITH YOU.

WARM REGARDS (SIGNED) HENRY A. KISSINGER. INGERSOLL

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